

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE JAKE ELLZEY TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER. Without objection, the gentleman from Texas (Ms. JOHNSON) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as dean of the Texas delegation, it is my honor to welcome to the U.S. House of Representatives Congressman JAKE ELLZEY, who will represent Texas' Sixth Congressional District.

Now, I know that he has only been a Congressman for a few seconds, but I am sure that he is already behind on his schedule, so I will be very brief.

Madam Speaker, our beliefs may differ, and our votes may contrast, but I do not doubt for a moment that we share the same commitment to public service and the same sentiment that what we need is consensus builders, people willing to work together, regardless of party, for the good of their constituents. Given that our two districts are next to each other, I look forward to having a strong working relationship with Congressman ELLZEY, like I had with his two predecessors, Congressman Joe Barton and the late Congressman Ron Wright.

Again, on behalf of the Texas delegation, welcome to the House of Representatives.

Madam Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY).

Mr. ELLZEY. Madam Speaker, first of all, I thank my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ; my family—my beautiful wife, Shelby, my incredible daughter, McCall; and my incredible son, Jack; my parents in Texas and California; and papa looking down on me from Heaven.

I thank my family in the Sixth District of Texas. I will serve you with quiet professionalism.

I would like to read for you Philippians 4:8-9.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable—if there is any moral excellence and if there is anything praiseworthy—dwell on these things. Do what you have learned and received and heard from me, and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

I believe America is exceptional. I love my country. It is an honor to serve. I would appreciate the prayers of all of those in here as I learn my job.

Madam Speaker, I would like to leave you with a moment of silence for your colleague, our friend, and my predecessor, Ron Wright, and his family.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. In light of the administration of the oath of office to the gentleman from Texas, the whole number of the House is 432.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. PIN-GREE). The Chair will entertain up to five requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING FATHER JOE CARROLL

(Mr. VARGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, we rise today—my colleague, Congressman PETERS, and myself—in honor of Father Joe Carroll, our San Diego's Mother Teresa.

Father Joe was born in the Bronx, New York, on April 12, 1941, and had seven brothers and sisters. He moved to California in his twenties, where he completed his studies at the University of San Diego and was ordained as a priest in 1974. He was assigned to St. Rita Catholic Church with a concurrent assignment to work with St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic organization known for helping the poor, especially the poorest of the poor.

From 1982 to 2011, Father Joe led St. Vincent de Paul, growing the organization to 500 employees and a budget of \$40 million. In 2015, the organization was renamed "Father Joe's Village" in his honor.

On July 10, 2021, just a few months after his 80th birthday, Father Joe passed. Father Joe Carroll was a heroic man who helped his community with the entirety of his heart and soul. He helped the poor, the hungry, and especially the homeless, and he had a gift for bringing all people together in his mission to serve.

Father Joe was loved by many and influenced so many of us. His accomplishments and contributions to the community were profound.

He will be sorely missed. Many of us expect that one day he will be named a saint in the Catholic Church.

BIDEN'S INFLATION

(Mr. MCCARTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I want to take one second to congratulate JAKE ELLZEY on his election to Congress.

It brought two people back together. MIKE GARCIA and JAKE actually served our Nation earlier, before he served in this body. He flew F-18s off an aircraft carrier into Iraq. They were brothers, and now they are back together again, serving their Nation and putting it forth.

It might be a little ironic that they both came in in a special election. They both were turning points on those elections and, I would say, underdogs in those elections. But it shows they both graduated from the Naval Academy, served their Nation, and continue

to serve again. This is a good day in this House.

Madam Speaker, 1 week ago, President Biden said inflation was temporary. He went on to say that spending trillions more would "reduce inflation, reduce inflation, reduce inflation." I think he is the only one who believes that.

I say to the President, with all due respect, we need to wake up. Inflation has risen every single month since he took office, and last month was the largest increase in 13 years.

Now, let's be very clear. Inflation is a tax on every single American. Everyone who is buying groceries knows it. Everyone who is filling up their car knows it. Everyone who is booking a summer flight knows it.

Yet, President Biden told a townhall in Ohio last week: "I don't know anybody . . . who is worried about inflation."

Madam Speaker, the only people I could imagine who are not worried about inflation make \$5 million in a couple of months trading stock options or sell paintings for half a million dollars.

Why doesn't the President of the United States know what is going on? This is what Americans hate about Washington. They turn on their TV and hear the President telling them their concerns aren't real.

Enough is enough. People are fed up with the ignorance and arrogance and hypocrisy.

Madam Speaker, President Biden needs to get a clue about inflation before it is too late. And it is not just Republicans who have been warning the Democrats if they pass the bill it would bring inflation, and here it is. It was Democrats who served in the Obama administration and Clinton administration, who warned them if they spend more trillions, inflation will come. And it has come every single month. And what is their answer for the future? More trillions. They will probably even try to call us back in August to make sure inflation grows a little more.

And, if that is not enough, just yesterday, we missed every indication and every prediction for growth in America. Americans can't take this much longer. November can't come sooner.

Inflation is a tax on every single American. But for those who don't know it, spend a little time with the real America and you will realize it.

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9/11 NATIONAL MEMORIAL TRAIL ROUTE

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. SCANLON. Madam Speaker, my community in southeastern Pennsylvania was deeply impacted by the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001.

Members of our community were among the flight crews and passengers

on the hijacked planes, others worked at the World Trade Center or Pentagon that day and were killed or had to flee for their lives. Airplanes headed to Philadelphia were diverted to Canada, and the high-rise offices were evacuated with bomb threats. Located between New York, D.C., and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, our area keenly felt like the geographic center of the three airplane attacks.

I am proud to cosponsor H.R. 2278, which authorizes the National Park Service to designate the September 11 National Memorial Trail route linking the Memorial and Museum in New York to the Pentagon Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, and the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset County. The 9/11 Memorial Trail will allow us all not to just engage with the tragedy of that terrorist attack, but also to heal from it.

In Pennsylvania's Fifth District, the Memorial Trail will link parts of the Schuylkill River Trail, Kingsessing, the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge, and move on through Delaware County.

This bill passed the House with great bipartisan support, and I urge the Senate to take it up before the 20th anniversary of September 11.

EFFECTS OF INFLATION

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, following months of disappointing jobs reports, rising inflation, and irresponsible messaging on how to combat the COVID-19 virus, the American people know that Democrat policies are to blame for the rising inflation that our Nation is facing.

Today, Americans are making less money than they were 1 year ago. With annualized real wages down nearly 4 percent, it is families, not politicians that are feeling the effects of President Biden's failed economic policies. Inflation, very simply, is taxation, and it has increased every month since President Biden has taken office.

While Democrats in Congress mocked concerns about rising inflation, we saw the effects that this crisis is having at the gas station and at the grocery store. Now, as experts warn that the effects of inflation may last longer than anticipated, President Biden has suggested flooding our economy with even more wasteful spending. Urging \$100 bribes for individuals to get vaccinated and spending billions of dollars for social programs will not fix our broken economy.

The American people know that this is a failure, and they know that Democrat policy is to blame.

RECOGNIZING RONNIE SMITH

(Mr. BUTTERFIELD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the important work being done all across North Carolina to reduce food insecurity.

I commend the outgoing president of the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, Ronnie Smith, for his leadership on this effort. Ronnie is also chair of the Martin County Board of Commissioners, a constituent, and a good friend.

Under Ronnie's leadership, the association's Resilience Task Force was formed to develop local strategies to promote food system resilience. The task force recently released a report to help counties deepen relationships with the local food banks, improve efforts to transport food to homes, and strengthen local food sources to reduce food insecurity.

To date, nearly a quarter of North Carolina's counties have passed resolutions to support the initiative. This year, 42 million people nationwide will experience food insecurity.

Madam Speaker, I applaud President Ronnie Smith's leadership. I applaud him for his leadership and commend him and the members of the Resilience Task Force for their hard work in combating food insecurity in North Carolina. Thank you, Commissioner Ronnie Smith.

REJECT TYRANNY

(Mr. CAWTHORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, you are not God. Your will does not bend the forests or shake the mountains. And let me assure you, your will does not bow the knee of millions of my countrymen who refuse to heed your calloused command.

To threaten arrest on others for their own personal medical decisions is nothing short of a medical apartheid, and I will not let it stand. For if I am to cowardly bend a knee here, like those on the left wish, then what is to stop you all from taking your tyranny to the rest of this country that I love?

How dare anyone in this institution attempt to dictate to the patriots of my staff how they may live their lives. For one to think that because they have the title "honorable" attached to their name means that they may dictate what others may say and think repulses me.

What makes this Nation special is that in this free land the people are the royalty. So arrest us if you will, but I will not cower and I will not bend.

Madam Speaker, you have come to take away our liberties but, Madam Speaker, in this country you are outnumbered.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4390

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, I hereby remove my name as cosponsor of the bill, H.R. 4390.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's request is accepted.

PROTECTING VOTING RIGHTS FOR SENIORS

(Ms. GARCIA of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to an urgent problem threatening Texas seniors' availability to vote.

One in every three States in our country have passed voting restriction laws this year. This is alarming.

New voting restrictions can threaten seniors, like my constituent, Earlene Sullivan, who turned 102 years old recently. Earlene is a beloved member of our community and served our county as a presiding judge. She oversaw elections and has voted all her life.

Today, Earlene votes by mail with the help of her daughter, Catherine. But the GOP's false claims on ballot harvesting have already caused a rift in her family.

Proposed voting restrictions in Texas, such as stricter driver's license and Social Security verification requirements, could threaten Earlene's and millions of seniors' ability to vote by mail.

Madam Speaker, this is unacceptable. Congress must pass voting rights for all Americans by passing H.R. 1 and H.R. 4.

DO NOT FORGET THE SOUTHERN BORDER CRISIS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, as we head into the 6- or 7-week break, it is important that Americans and Congress not forget the number one crisis facing this Nation, and that is the takeover of our southern border by Mexican drug gangs.

Right now, the drug gangs, because we are kind of tardy at guarding the border, escort people into Mexico, escort people through buses and trains to the Rio Grande River, put wristbands on these people so they know which gang they are associated with and which type of tour they bought, and have them carry drugs across the Rio Grande.

If our Border Patrol tries to stop people crossing the river, they throw little children in the Rio Grande so our Border Patrol has to go there. They eventually turn these people over to Border Patrol on the southern border, where they are turned over to nongovernmental organizations that put them in hotels. These hotels are not secure, so even if you have COVID, you are let out into the country.

They hold relatives hostage in Central America and Mexico so that the people who come here have to pay money to get their entry into this country, from \$3,000 to \$20,000.